

Remarks

The title has been objected to as not descriptive. Applicant respectfully submits that the title "Methods of Forming Conductive Materials" is descriptive of the methods of forming a conductive material claimed; therefore, no amendment has been made to the title as none is believed warranted or required by law.

Claims 55 and 70-74 are pending in the application and have been rejected as obvious in view of Marsh (U.S. Published Application 2001/0055869) in combination with Fazan et al. (U.S. Patent 6,495,427) and Buchanan et al. (U.S. Patent 6,984,591) in various combinations. Applicant requests reconsideration of this rejection for at least the reason that the cited references, alone or in combination, fail to teach all the elements of the pending claims.

MPEP §2142 recites that the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). The cited references fail to teach that the conductive layers are different.

Claim 55 recites a method that includes depositing a second conductive material physically against the first conductive material, with the second conductive material consisting essentially of a metal and being different than the first conductive material.

Both Marsh and Buchanan have been improperly relied upon for this limitation. Both Marsh and Buchanan describe materials upon materials. In

the case of Marsh, a list of materials (75, P. 0064) are provided to be below another list of materials (105 as 85, p. 0067), but Marsh does not teach that these materials are different. The same is true in the case of Buchanan. In the case of Buchanan, a list of materials (31, col. 27, lines 40-44) are provided to be below another list of materials (32, col. 27, lines 40-50). Neither Buchanan nor Marsh describe a first conductive material of TiN, WN, TaN, elemental Ta, and elemental Ti, with the second material being different as claim 55 recites, and for at least this reason claim 55 and the claims depending therefrom are allowable.

Also submitted herewith is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant respectfully requests review of the cited references and the return of an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08a to the Applicant.

Claims 55 and 70-74 are believed to be in immediate condition for allowance and Applicant requests allowance of claims 55 and 70-74 in the Examiner's next action. If the Examiner's next anticipated action is to be anything other than a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (509) 624-4276 between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm (PST).

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5/14/08

By: _____

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